UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,418	01/05/2001	Jorge M. Ferreira	60001.0009US01	4805

27488   7590   08/17/2007
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EXAMINER
PAULA, CESAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/17/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

Interview Summary	Application No. 09/755,418	Applicant(s) FERREIRA ET AL.	
	Examiner CESAR B. PAULA	Art Unit 2178	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) _CESAR B. PAULA_.   (3)_____.

(2) _D. KENT STIER_.   (4)_____.

Date of Interview: _15 August 2006_.

Type: a)☒ Telephonic   b)☐ Video Conference
       c)☐ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant   2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes   e)☒ No.
  If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: _1, 11, AND 19_.

Identification of prior art discussed: _STAROFFICE, AND KEENE_.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached.   g)☒ was not reached.   h)☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: _DISCUSSED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A PROPOSED AMENDMENT, AND THE PRIOR ART OF RECORD_.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

CESAR PAULA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

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Fax Transmission | August 6, 2007

To:	Examiner Cesar B. Paula	**From:**	D. Kent Stier
			Merri D. Cruz
Group Art Unit:	2178		
US Serial No.:	09/755,418		
		Our Ref.:	60001.0009US01/MS150535.1
Fax No.:	571.273.4128	**Fax No.:**	404.954.5099
Phone No.:	571.272.4128	**Phone No.:**	404.954.5066
		Total Pages:	16

Confirmation via Mail: YES ☐ NO ☒

Document Transmitted:
     Proposed Amendment for Interview Purposes Only

Message:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR INTERVIEW PURPOSES ONLY

S/N: 09/755,418   <u>PATENT</u>

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Applicant: Jorge Ferreira et al.   Examiner: Cesar B. Paula

Serial No.:   09/755,418   Group Art Unit: 2178

Filed: January 5, 2001   Docket No.: 60001.0009US01/MS150535.1

Title: Method of Removing Personal Information from an Electronic Document

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 1.116</u>

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 20, 2007, please reexamine

and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and appended remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from a first ~~electronic~~ document created by a document-generating application that stores the personal information and makes the personal information visible at a comment block of the document, wherein the method comprises ~~the steps of~~:

activating a privacy option comprising computer-implemented instructions provided by the document-generating application and removing from all portions of the first document except for a body of the first document one or more pieces of the personal information without deleting the first document, the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by the document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application; and

wherein the removal of one or more pieces of personal information from the first document comprises the computer-implemented stage of replacing the one or more pieces of personal information created by the document-generating application with generic information visible at each comment block of the first document; and

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saving the first document with the generic information replacing the removed

personal information, wherein saving the first document further comprises, in response

to activating the privacy option, replacing the removed personal information with the

generic information in both a memory representation of the first document and a file

representation of the first document.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more pieces of personal

information comprises an author's name, a user's name, a company name, a manager's

name, a last saved by name, an e-mail address, or a combination thereof.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the generic

information comprises a string of letters, numbers, symbols, spaces, or a combination

thereof.

6. (Cancelled)

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7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[2]] 1, wherein saving the first

document removes one or more pieces of personal information from display in the

comment block appearing within the first document when the first document is saved.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from a

visible comment block appearing within a second electronic document, wherein the

method comprises creating a template of the second document from the first document

produced by the method of Claim 1.

9. (Original) A computing system containing at least one application module

usable on the computing system, wherein the at least one application module comprises

application code for performing the method of Claim 1.

10. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-

executable instructions for performing the method of Claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from an

electronic a document created by a document-generating program that makes the

personal information visible at a comment block of the document, wherein the method

comprises the steps of:

receiving input of one or more pieces of personal information into one or more

data storage fields of the document-generating program in response to a request for

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personal information from the document-generating ~~application~~ <u>program during</u>

<u>installation of the document-generating program</u>; and

receiving input to activate a computer-implemented privacy option provided by

the document-generating program for the document, wherein on activation of the

privacy option the document-generating program removes the one or more pieces of

personal information from <u>all portions of the document except for a body of</u> the

document, and from the comment block within the document, without deleting the

document; and

wherein the document-generating program replaces the removed personal

information with generic information visible in the comment block within the document;

and

receiving input by the document-generating program to save the document,

wherein saving the document removes the one or more pieces of personal information

from the document and the comment visible within block of the document or replacing

replaces the one or more pieces of personal information with generic information in the

document and the comment box visible within block of the document in both a memory

representation of the document and a file representation of the document.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the one or more pieces of

personal information comprises an author's name, a user's name, a company name, a

manager's name, a last saved by name, an e-mail address, or a combination thereof.

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13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the generic information comprises a string of letters, numbers, symbols, spaces, or a combination thereof.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising receiving input by the document-generating program to enter one or more pieces of new personal information into the document after activation of the privacy option of the document, wherein the one or more pieces of new personal information entered into the document are (a) removed from the document or (b) replaced with generic information (1) as soon as the one or more pieces of new personal information are added to the document, or (2) as soon as an "OK" prompt provided by the document-generating program is replied to by an user, or (3) as soon as the document is closed.

17. (Original) A computing system containing at least one application module usable on the computing system, wherein the at least one application module comprises application code for performing the method of Claim 11.

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18. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of Claim 11.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing a method for removing personal information from a comment block within ~~an electronic~~ a document, wherein the method comprises ~~the steps of~~:

activating a computer-implemented privacy option provided by the instructions, wherein activation of the privacy option enables removal of one or more pieces of personal information from <u>all portions of the document except for a body of</u> the document without deleting the document<u>, the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by a document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application</u>; and

wherein the removal of one or more pieces of personal information from the document comprises the computer-implemented stage of replacing the one or more pieces of personal information with generic information visible in the comment block of the document; and

saving the first document with the generic information replacing the removed personal information, wherein saving the first document further comprises, in response to activating the privacy option, replacing the removed personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the document and a file representation of the document.

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20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the method further comprises saving the document with the generic information replacing the removed personal information.

21-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the document generating program generates the comment block containing a comment added to the first ~~electronic~~ document by a user of the program and also containing personal information about the user adding the comment; and wherein

activating the privacy option removes the personal information from the document and from the comment block of the document without removing the comment block or the comment added to the document and displayed within the document.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein replacing the removed personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the first document and a file representation of the first document comprises maintaining content corresponding to the personal information in a text portion in both the memory representation of the first document and the file representation of the first document.

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29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 19, wherein replacing the removed personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the first document and a file representation of the first document comprises maintaining content corresponding to the personal information in a text portion in both the memory representation of the document and the file representation of the document.

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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this response, Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-12, 14, 16-20, and 27-29 were pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 11, and 19 are independent. In the Final Office Action dated June 20, 2007, Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 14-20, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Following this response, Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-12, 14, 16-20, and 27-29 remain in this application. Applicants hereby address the Examiner's rejections in turn.

I.   Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiner Paula for the courtesy of a telephone interview on _____, 2007, requested by the undersigned to discuss the rejection of the current claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103. During the interview, _____.

<Note: Interview currently being scheduled.>

II.   Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Final Office Action dated June 20, 2007, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-12, 14, 16-20, and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Star Office 5.1 Memorandum ("*Star Office*") in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2004/0049294 A1 ("*Keen*"). Claims 1, 11, and 19 have been amended, and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome this rejection and add no new matter.

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Amended Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the reason that it recites, for example, "activating a privacy option comprising computer-implemented instructions provided by the document-generating application and removing from all portions of the first document except for a body of the first document one or more pieces of the personal information without deleting the first document, the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by the document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application." Amended Claims 11 and 19 each includes a similar recitation. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least on page 12, lines 11-29 and on page 13, lines 9-23.

In contrast, *Star Office* at least does not teach or suggest the aforementioned recitation. For example, *Star Office* merely discloses screenshots associated with a properties dialog box for viewing and editing StarWriter document properties. Consequently, *Star Office* is completely silent regarding: i) removing from all portions of a document, except for a body of the document, one or more pieces of personal information and ii) the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by a document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application.

Furthermore, *Keen* does not overcome *Star Office's* deficiencies. *Keen* merely discloses that, after given an access identification, a user can access a database system and request access to an object. (See paragraph [0007], lines 1-3.) The system then retrieves information pertaining to the individual user's privilege criteria and

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determines which information contained in the database may be accessed by the user. (See paragraph [0007], lines 3-6.) The system then filters the information including objects, their attributes, and associated documents according to the privilege information and gives the user limited access to the information. (See paragraph [0007], lines 6-9.) The requested and approved information can then be sent to the user. (See paragraph [0007], lines 9-11.) Like *Star Office, Keen* at least does not teach or suggest: i) removing from all portions of a document, except for a body of the document, one or more pieces of personal information and ii) the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by a document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application. Rather *Keen* merely discloses: i) filtering information including objects, their attributes, and associated documents according to privilege information and ii) giving a user limited access to the information. Nowhere does *Keen* teach or suggest leaving in the body of a document personal removed from all other portions of the documents and the removed personal information having been requested by an application during installation.

Combining *Star Office* with *Keen* would not have led to the claimed invention because *Star Office* and *Keen*, either individually or in any reasonable combination, at least do not disclose or suggest "activating a privacy option comprising computer-implemented instructions provided by the document-generating application and removing from all portions of the first document except for a body of the first document one or more pieces of the personal information without deleting the first document, the one or more pieces of the personal information being requested by the document-

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generating application during installation of the document-generating application," as recited by amended Claim 1. Amended Claims 11 and 19 each includes a similar recitation. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 11, and 19 each patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited art, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claims 1, 11, and 19.

Dependent Claims 3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, and 27 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claims 1, 11, and 19, and by virtue of their respective dependencies upon independent Claims 1, 11, and 19. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent 3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, and 27.

III.   Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment After Final be entered by the Examiner, placing the claims in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the proposed amendments of the claims do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Finally, Applicants respectfully submit that the entry of the Amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

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In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicants therefore request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims, as amended, are patentable over the cited references. The preceding arguments are based only on the arguments in the Official Action, and therefore do not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Official Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, the preceding argument in favor of patentability is advanced without prejudice to other bases of patentability. Furthermore, the Final Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Final Office Action.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this amendment and

charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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DKS:mdc

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